

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 13661 121305Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 /041 W
-----082113 130700Z /14

R 121231Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4441
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
INS/CO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 13661

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF
SUBJECT: ACCELERATED HANDLING OF BOAT REFUGEES IN MALAYSIA
AND THAILAND

REF: (A) STATE 120222; (B) HONG KONG 5980; (C) BANGKOK 12853

1. REF A ASKS FOR HONG KONG/DIDIR COMMENTS ON CONDUCTING
JOINT INTERVIEWS OF REFUGEES WITH THE AUSTRALIANS. REF B
WAS THE HONG KONG RESPONSE.

2. THE AUSTRALIANS AND THE AMERICANS HAVE THE PRINCIPAL
PROGRAMS FOR ACCEPTING BOAT REFUGEES. WE HAVE SUCCESS-
FULLY CONDUCTED JOINT IMMIGRATION INTERVIEWS WITH THE
AUSTRALIANS IN THE SONGKHLA CAMP, AND, MOST RECENTLY,
JOINT PRE-SCREENING INTERVIEWS ABOARD THE DAMODAR DR.
ALBERT BLOCK. BY WORKING TOGETHER IN BOAT CASE CAMPS,
WE CAN ACHIEVE MAXIMUM COORDINATION AND SPEED OF
REFUGEE ACCEPTANCE. FOR EXAMPLE, IF AUSTRALIAN

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PAGE 02 BANGKO 13661 121305Z

IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS HAD BEEN WITH US IN LAEMSING LAST
MONTH, WE WOULD NOT HAVE OUR CURRENT HOLD ON 38 CASES THERE
PENDING A FINAL AUSTRALIAN DECISION. THE REFUGEES THAT
WE WILL EVENTUALLY ACCEPT AMONG THIS GROUP HAVE BEEN
DELAYED A MONTH.

3. IT HAS NOT BEEN OUR RECENT EXPERIENCE THAT REFUGEES

AUTOMATICALLY PREFER THE UNITED STATES. THERE ARE MANY
REFUGEES WHO PREFER AUSTRALIA TO THE UNITED STATES
BECAUSE THEY HAVE RELATIVES THERE, THE PROCESSING IS
QUICKER, AND THE CLIMATE IS MILDER.

WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, POLICIES, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, SEA RESCUES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Film Number: D780203-0507
Format: TEL
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780566/aaaacebx.tel
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Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d7e916a0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION HA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Reference: 78 STATE 120222, 78 HONG KONG 5980, 78 BANGKOK 12853
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TAGS: SREF
To: STATE
Type: TE
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